

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 8-27 are requested to be cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits in this or another application.

Claims 1 and 4-7 are now pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner noted that Claims 1 and 4-7 are allowed.

After the cancellation of Claims 8-27, the only remaining claims (1 and 4-7) are allowed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 15-19 and 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,091,343 to Dykema et al. (“Dykema”).

Applicants have cancelled claims 15-19 and 21-26 and the rejections thereof are now moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 8-14 as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,747,568 to Teskey (“Teskey”) in view of Dykema under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 20 as being unpatentable over Dykema in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,614,906 to Hayes et al. (“Hayes”) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 22 and 27 as being unpatentable over Dykema in view of Teskey under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants have cancelled claims 8-14, 20, 22 and 27 and the rejections thereof are now moot.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would help advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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